

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Shuji MIYASAKA et al.  
Title : SIGNAL PROCESSING DEVICE AND SIGNAL PROCESSING METHOD  
Serial No.: filed concurrently  
Filed : December 22, 2000

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to the examination and calculation of the filing fee  
for this application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 19 and 20 as follows:

--19. (Amended) A portable type apparatus comprising:

an audio signal input section for inputting an encoded audio  
signal;

a signal processing device [of claim 1] for decoding said  
encoded audio signal, said signal processing device comprising:

first to Nth sub signal processing sections each of  
which is given  $(N \times t + i)$ th frame signals ( $i$  and  $t$  are  
integers,  $N$  is a natural number, and  $0 \leq i < N$ ) of a  
first digital signal framed for each predetermined time

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interval and each of which completes a first process within a period  $(N \times T)$  ( $T$  is a real number); and

a main signal processing section which converts a signal processed in said  $(i + 1)$ th sub signal processing section into a second digital signal by completing a second process within a period  $T$ ; and

an audio signal output section for outputting said decoded audio signal.

20. (Amended) A portable type apparatus comprising:

an audio signal input section for inputting an audio signal;

a signal processing device [of claim 2] for encoding said audio signal, said signal processing device comprising:

first to Nth sub signal processing sections each of which is given  $(N \times t + i)$ th frame signals ( $i$  and  $t$  are integers,  $N$  is a natural number, and  $0 \leq i < N$ ) of a first digital signal framed for each predetermined time interval and each of which completes a first process within a period  $(N \times T)$  ( $T$  is a real number);

a main signal processing section which converts a signal processed in said  $(i + 1)$ th sub signal

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processing section into a second digital signal by  
completing a second process within a period T;

a distribution section inputting said first  
digital signal to one of said first to Nth sub signal  
processing sections for each frame interval one after  
another; and

a selection section selectively outputting one of  
the after-process signal outputted from said first to  
Nth sub signal processing sections for each frame  
interval one after another to input the signal to said  
main signal processing section; and

[an] a memory for holding said encoded audio signal.--

#### REMARKS

By this preliminary amendment, claims 19 and 20 have been amended. Currently, claims 1-20 are pending in the application. Therefore, the required fees are calculated below:

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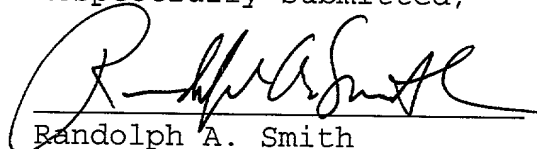
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Total Claims	<u>20</u> - <u>20</u> = <u>0</u>	\$0.00
Independent Claims	<u>6</u> - <u>3</u> = <u>3</u>	\$240.00
Basic Filing Fee		\$710.00
TOTAL FEE DUE:		<u>\$950.00</u>

A check for \$950.00 will be filed at a later date.

If there are any questions or concerns regarding the claim amendments or these remarks, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



Randolph A. Smith  
Reg. No. 32,548

Date: December 22, 2000

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